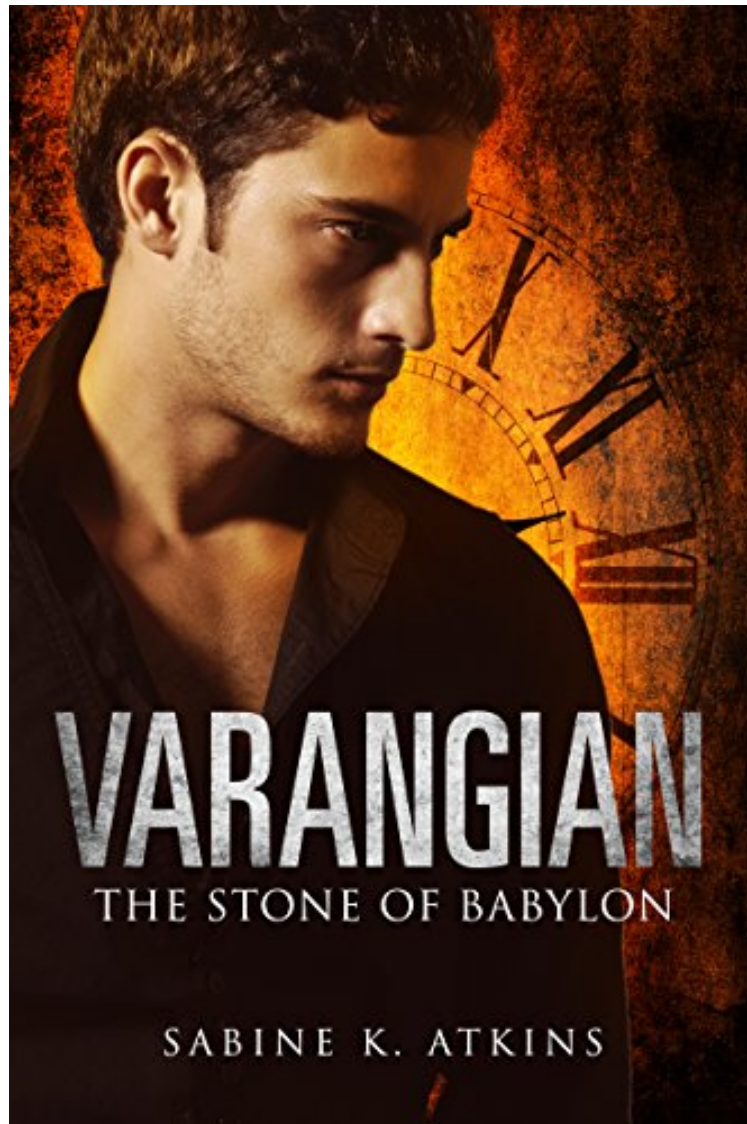


(Ebook pdf) Varangian: The Stone of Babylon (The Varangian Trilogy Pt.1) (English Edition)

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Von Sabine K. Atkins

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before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Varangian: The Stone of Babylon (The Varangian Trilogy Pt.1) (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Edric, the one and only Varangian Guard beyond space and timeVon brienneselwynMy ExpectationsI must say that after

reading the text above and spending time on the official website (Varangian: The Stone of Babylon) my expectation rose above a certain limit. The blend of history, fantasy, superpowers and time travel is seductive. But I know it is dangerous if you expect too much. Theme Deep in the heart Varangian: The Stone of Babylon is a book about sincerity, straightforwardness, principles, fidelity and love. All these themes find their expression in the person of Edric. That sounds like Varangian: The Stone of Babylon is novel with a heavily philosophical and didactic touch. But I can assure you that most of the mentioned themes find their expression in the action and thoughts of Edric and his interaction with his surrounding. You won't find theorems. On the surface the reader is confronted with the question what one should do with supernatural gifts. Sabine Atkins shows her talent to cope with thoughtful themes in an entertaining and intoxicating way which undeniably arouse your thirst for historical knowledge. Setting The prologue gives a first hint that there are more things between heaven and Earth as mankind can explain. The setting is heavily connected with a part of human history which does not belong to the general knowledge. I have a knack for history and I must admit I never heard about the Varangian Guard before. But it is more satisfying read when you know that the Varangian Guard was an elite unit of viking mercenaries and part of the Byzantine Army from 900 to 1400. I highly recommend to read English Refugees in the Byzantine Armed Forces: The Varangian Guard and Anglo-Saxon Ethnic Consciousness By Nicholas C.J. Pappas in case you want to get more out of the book than pure entertainment. The Byzantine Empire and especially the town Constantinople plays an important role. Within a few pages Sabine Atkins takes you back in time. You see the big walls, you hear Arabian voices and you smell the for us European exotic scents. You breathe history and you think that is the way the book will go. But with a pinprick in form of an outburst of Edric's supernatural power she gives you a first hint that this is much more than pure historical fiction. The arrival of crusaders on board of Venetian warships set a wheel in motion which gives way to a story that will take you above the abyss of time and leaves you in waiting mode for the next book. You may miss information about time travel. That is a conscious decision. Any word more about it would give away a lot of the story. I confirm there is time travel and it is important for the story. Plot One could say that the title of the book - Varangian: The Stone of Babylon - is the most condensed summary of the book. But a stone does not live. All the things inside, around and connected to the stone comes alive in the connection between Edric and the stone. The story starts with a classical prologue which is short and mysterious. Then follows a breathtaking adventure which is best described with a roller coaster ride. The end of Varangian: The Stone of Babylon is a cliffhanger conclusion. That means Edric finished a part of his adventure but there is much more to come. Character(s) Edric, the intelligent, powerful, honest, sometimes naive, shy and stubborn man is a very dominating character who gives the people surrounding him (it does not matter to which party they belong) enough room to breathe and to develop their personalities. The intensity of characterization of other persons depends on their importance for Edric and the story. There are some characters where I would like to get more information. But I try to keep in mind that this is the first book in a series. Edric is far beyond to be a macho. He likes women but loves only a few. He is afraid to be emotionally hurt. When he loves then his love is unconditionally. Edric belongs to the kind of people who wear their heart on their sleeves. Style The writing inhabits a certain ease and fits always to the situation. I like the pace and the rhythm a lot which ships you around any possible bumpiness without problems. Don't be surprised when you breathe heavier when action takes part. Don't forget to wear sunglasses in case nobody should see your tears while reading the heartbreaking scenes. And once a while glows humor. The Inevitable Varangian: The Stone of Babylon is an absolutely great blend of history, fantasy, superpowers and time travel which blossoms in an adventurous roller coaster ride of a story starring Edric who is fascinating character because he is intelligent, powerful, honest, sometimes naive, shy and stubborn. He belongs to the kind of characters who are always true to themselves and which you sometimes want to kiss and to slap into the face at the same time.

Kurzbeschreibung Bound by an ancient oath, Edric is protecting a powerful secret ... Anglo-Saxon Edric is a Varangian, the member of an elite military force in medieval Constantinople. Being part secret service agent, part imperial security detail, he is privy to all kinds of secrets and intrigues in a strategically significant city embroiled in wars as well as internal political turmoil. But Edric is taken by surprise, when he finds out that his friend, an alchemist from Persia, has given him superpowers and wants him to protect the Stone of Babylon - by any means necessary. This task sends Edric on a mind-bending journey of epic proportions, full of exciting clashes with warriors and supernatural beings, dangerous alchemy, time travel, fantastical machines, and the acquaintances of strikingly beautiful members of the opposite sex (and not all of them seem to be concerned with his well-being). A journey that not only will reveal to him the purpose of the Stone of Babylon, but also show him his true strength. "Varangian: The Stone of Babylon" is the first book in the Varangian Trilogy. The second book, "Varangian: The Assassins of Teneo Mundus" will be published in Fall 2012: Two heroes, two different worlds - and not a lot of time left to prevent their destruction! One of Edric's former enemies, medieval knight Count Baldwin, who inadvertently ended up in the supernatural realm of Teneo Mundus, is confronted with protecting a small group of refugees in a world he perceives as true hell. On Earth, Edric is juggling the tasks of defending himself against assassins from Teneo Mundus, finding the artifacts which help

him stop the destruction of both this world and Earth, and traveling with two smart, beautiful women whose characters are constantly on opposite sides. The third book in the series, "Varangian: The Hidden Empire" is planned to be published tentatively in 2016 or 2017. Kurzbeschreibung Bound by an ancient oath, Edric is protecting a powerful secret ... Anglo-Saxon Edric is a Varangian, the member of an elite military force in medieval Constantinople. Being part secret service agent, part imperial security detail, he is privy to all kinds of secrets and intrigues in a strategically significant city embroiled in wars as well as internal political turmoil. But Edric is taken by surprise, when he finds out that his friend, an alchemist from Persia, has given him superpowers and wants him to protect the Stone of Babylon - by any means necessary. This task sends Edric on a mind-bending journey of epic proportions, full of exciting clashes with warriors and supernatural beings, dangerous alchemy, time travel, fantastical machines, and the acquaintances of strikingly beautiful members of the opposite sex (and not all of them seem to be concerned with his well-being). A journey that not only will reveal to him the purpose of the Stone of Babylon, but also show him his true strength. "Varangian: The Stone of Babylon" is the first book in the Varangian Trilogy. The second book, "Varangian: The Assassins of Teneo Mundus" will be published in Fall 2012: Two heroes, two different worlds - and not a lot of time left to prevent their destruction! One of Edric's former enemies, medieval knight Count Baldwin, who inadvertently ended up in the supernatural realm of Teneo Mundus, is confronted with protecting a small group of refugees in a world he perceives as true hell. On Earth, Edric is juggling the tasks of defending himself against assassins from Teneo Mundus, finding the artifacts which help him stop the destruction of both this world and Earth, and traveling with two smart, beautiful women whose characters are constantly on opposite sides. The third book in the series, "Varangian: The Hidden Empire" is planned to be published tentatively in 2016 or 2017. ber den Autor und weitere Mitwirkende Born in the southern German state of Bavaria, Sabine grew up listening to and reading old German fairy tales and folk stories. She especially fondly remembers the times spent with her grandmother who never ran out of ghost stories and little anecdotes from the Bavarian province of Franconia, a picturesque area with the ruins of medieval castles, lush forests and rolling hills as well as hauntingly beautiful autumns and winters. Sabine immigrated to the US, and became a citizen in 2005. She now resides near Nashville, Tennessee. She seeks to combine the folk tales of the old world with fast-paced modern storytelling driven by unique characters and the powerful imagery of US blockbuster movies.